

Washington - Congresswoman Linda Sánchez today congratulated Professor David Paddy, who was honored for undergraduate teaching excellence at the U.S. Professors of the Year awards program. Dr. Paddy is an Associate Professor of English Language and Literature at Whittier College, where he has taught since 1997.

Dr. Paddy is known by his students as an exciting, engaging teacher who challenges them to examine new perspectives when analyzing literature and the world around them. He teaches a range of English courses, often drawing subject matter from other disciplines into his lessons.

“It is important that we recognize the work of educators like David, who use innovative techniques to reach and challenge students, expanding their awareness of their surroundings and their own potential,” said Congresswoman Sánchez. “Professors like David make education an active, dynamic process that goes beyond textbooks and lectures. His students understand that learning is a lifelong opportunity for growth.”

“Whittier College is a place that really values teaching, so I’m surrounded by a multitude of excellent professors who are committed to the quality of their teaching,” said Dr. Paddy. “I feel humbled, honored and even a little embarrassed to be singled out among such stellar teachers.”

The U.S. Professors of the Year program, sponsored by The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and administered by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education, honors outstanding undergraduate instructors from all around the country. Awards are based on the following criteria: impact on and involvement with undergraduate students; scholarly approach to teaching and learning; contribution to undergraduate education in the institution, community and profession; and support from colleagues and current and former undergraduate students. Four national and forty-three state winners were chosen this year.

“I am grateful that we have such talented and dedicated people teaching our students,” said Congresswoman Sánchez. “I’m working to increase working families’ access to college so that more of our kids have the opportunity to achieve their potential.”